

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year) 28 -06- 2005
Applicant's or agent's file reference E40370 JFL/J		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/NO2005/000093	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.03.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 24.03.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B21D 39/06, F16L 19/02		
Applicant Quickflange AS et al		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further opinions, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/NO2005/000093

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language, _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- in written format
 in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

PCT/NO2005/000093

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2-6	YES
	Claims	1	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	2-6	YES
	Claims	1	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-6	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

The invention concerns a method and a tool for joining flanges or other coupling elements to pipes as stated in the preambles of claims 1 and 2.

I order to achieve a good seal and to provide a tool that is operated only radially, buckled-in areas are after-pressed outwardly as stated in claim 1 with a tool comprising radially moving segments as stated in claim 2.

Cited documents:

D1: US 4154464 A

D2: RU 2159689 (abstract)

From D1 is known a method for joining a coupling element to a pipe where circular beads are pressed into corresponding grooves in the surrounding coupling element. Thereafter the inner side of the pipe is burnished, which, obviously, achieves an after-pressing operation of eventually buckled-in areas in the pipe.

The method in claim 1 does not in a clear way differ from this known method.

See also D2 from which is known a method for joining a coupling element to a pipe where circular beads are pressed into corresponding grooves in the surrounding coupling element.

.../...

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient,
Continuation of BOX V

Thereafter the inner side or the pipe is expanded, which, obviously, achieves an after-pressing operation of eventually buckled-in areas in the pipe.

The method in claim 1 does not in a clear way differ from this known method.